

The Corner Stone

PUBLICATION OF WATERLOO LOCAL #451
AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, AFL-CIO
MEMBER OF APWU POSTAL PRESS ASSOCIATION



Retiree's Get-Together
Mondays at 1:00pm
University Ave. McDonald's
Across from Hy-Vee

October 2004

President's Report



By: Dwight Slaikeu



The deadline for this report kind of snuck up on me this month. All of a sudden it's the middle of October and I'm not ready for July to be gone. Sure wish I wasn't such a writing procrastinator, could've had this done last week so when I worked too many hours with too little sleep this week I wouldn't have to worry about it. Enough whining, let's see if I can come up with something to report to you.

By the time you get this I should have had a meeting to find out what the intentions are with the recently or soon to be vacated duty assignments. Remind me at the meeting Saturday and I'll go over that as well as any other subjects that were discussed.

Some of you who requested to have your personnel file copied received it. I know there are those who didn't. We were hit (again) by the "shuffling OICs" game that's been going on far too long. The original requests were put in this past Spring but that OIC shuffled out without passing the requests on. The next one gave it a good try by having everyone fill out a form for her but she shuffled out and nobody's seen the forms since. Somehow Kim had a partial list in her computer so those were followed through on by the present OIC. Oh yeah, I remember there was another OIC in there somewhere but he shuffled out before I had a chance to ask him about it at all, actually before I had a chance to talk to him about anything. Anyway, the point of this is, if you are one of those who have not yet received a copy of your file and you still want it, please request it one more time and we'll see what happens this time. Put your request in to OIC Barnes, in writing, and with any luck at all, you'll get it before he too shuffles on down the road.

The National election is over for another 3 years. My congratulations go out to those elected. Our local election is in the middle of nominations. The meeting this Saturday is your last chance for 2 years to nominate, or get yourself nominated, for local office. Without verifying it, I believe I remember there is, at present, only one contested race. Kind of takes the excitement out of it, doesn't it? Don't be shy. If you, or someone you know, would like to run for office, jump right up and get yourself to the meeting Saturday. Keep in mind we will also be drawing the winner of the get-out-the-vote contest.

Due to Gary's desire to step out of his position as Tour 3 Steward I'm looking for a replacement. I have talked to a couple of individuals about it and have suggested they might want to join us at the Fall Seminar later this month. Once they get some time to think about it we'll talk some more and go from there. Please don't assume anything. As with the election, if you, or someone you know, is interested in getting involved in this manner, and of course, are a Tour 3 employee, let me know.

Speaking of the Fall Seminar, the membership decided last month to allow 2 more people to go along with us that were not named at the meeting. I suppose it is possible the spots are filled if both of those mentioned above decide to go, but I doubt it. Let me know if you'd like to go to Des Moines the weekend of the 23rd and we'll see if there is still an opening.

See you at the meeting Saturday.

.....
ATTENTION!

You will be given the greatest power
any person will die for, and many
have!

The Power of the VOTE!

Register to vote in our Country's
national elections and in November,
exercise that great power!

A wasted vote, is freedom wasted!

.....

Secretary's Report

By: Mike Burke

APWU Local 451

Date: September 18, 2004

The September meeting of the APWU Local 451 was called to order at 11:10 am. at the OP with fifteen members present.

A **motion** was made by Chuck Konig to accept the **minutes** as printed in the Corner Stone and seconded by Jerry Kemmer. The motion carried.

There was no reading of the Treasurer's report as she was not present at the meeting

Officers Reports:

Presidents Report:

1. A big thanks goes out to Stan Drewelow and everyone who helped make the 2004 picnic a success.

2. COPA: \$27.00 was collected at the meeting. Waterloo is sitting at the top of the list nationally per capita COPA. Congrats!!!!!!!!!!!!

3. A reminder that national election ballots are coming to members in the mail. So get them filled out properly and then show them to Dwight, Cindy or Kim before you mail them in.

4. National Convention - Informative Computer Discs are available to view with seminar topics via Dwight, Cindy or Chris Salinas.

5. The disaster funds guidelines were set up at this convention. A Catastrophic Health /Disaster Fund is now set up with \$300,000. Dwight will check on the date a person may apply for this money.

6. AFLAC has joined up with APWU somehow on health insurance. Information on this will be forthcoming.

7. A salary increase will be coming in November. Along with this increase will be a dues increase.

8. Holiday bidding is in session, any questions contact Dwight. Partial days are not accepted.

Steward Director:

Cindy Miller has a safety/health manual if anyone would like to look at it.

Vice President:

Kim Karol stated that we have arbitration on maintenance items coming up this Thursday. Also a reminder that for the November elections make sure you are registered to vote and have the correct information on that registration. If you have

moved or had a name change etc., you will have register again with the correct info.

Maintenance Rep:

Chris Salinas talked about the Government's FairPay Amendment. Please get on your computers and check this out as there is a lot of info.

Old Business: Next meeting will be held Saturday October 16, 2004 at 11:00 am. at the OP.

New Business: After you have your APWU national voting ballot ready to be mailed, take it to Dwight, Cindy or Kim to verify that you are mailing in your ballot, your name will be entered into a \$100.00 drawing at the October meeting. We also have the Fall Seminar coming up October 23rd and 24th in Des Moines. Registration is \$25.00. Rooms are from \$77-\$99 depending on what type of room you need. Saturday the seminar will be on Basic Steward Training in the morning and the afternoon seminar will be Advance Steward Training. Sunday morning is either a FMLA or a Privacy Act seminar.

A **motion** to send 4 people plus the President to Des Moines was made by Cindy Miller and seconded by Paulette Woods. Motion carried.

A **motion** to send Jerry Kemmer and Cindy Miller to the Fall Seminar was made by Kim Karol and seconded by Chris Salinas with 2 spots open for other people who are interested in going. Motion carried.

A **motion** by Cindy Miller and seconded by Chuck Konig to send \$250.00 to the Family Service Leagues Adopt a Family for Christmas program. Motion carried.

Nominations for Local Officers are as follows:

President - Dwight Slaikeu

Vice President - Kim Karol

Stewards Director - Cindy Miller

Secretary - Mike Burke

Treasurer - Merri Kay Chase

Editor - Chris Salinas

Trustees - Stan Drewelow, Dean Price, Janelle Brucher, Lou Ostlie, and Rhonda Lauer.

We will also be holding nominations again at the October meeting.

Drawing: The drawing was won by Jim Anderson.

Adjourn: The **motion** to adjourn was made by Cindy Miller and seconded by Jerry Kemmer at 12:12 pm. Motion carried

Members Present: Vern Berry, Paulette Woods, Jim Anderson, Dave Knebel, Chuck Konig, Chris Salinas, Bob Brendes, Bill Boyd, Stan Drewelow, Jerry Kemmer, Dwight Slaikeu, Mike Burke and Kim Karol.

Editor's Note: In the minutes, I mention about the supposed "FairPay" amendment. This is also the well known "Over Time Takeaway" amendment. It effects union contract negotiations as well. If you think your immune from this law, I recommend a closer look at this law.

The website is:

<http://www.dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/whd/fairpay/>



Vice-President's Report

By: Kim Karol 

Election time is here again. You have the ability to choose who will be leading your country and your local union leadership as well. I am sure that everyone understands that they should be casting ballots for individuals that they believe to be capable of performing the duties of all the offices in either of these elections. People who you believe will be making decisions for the best interests of the country and the local union. I know you will choose wisely.

Many people will not vote, and that is too bad. There will be many reasons for not voting, none of which will be good enough for me, so don't waste your breath with excuses. If you do not exercise your right to vote, don't bother to complain about the outcome to me later either. Your apathy cost you the right to complain in my book.

Now that the bitching has really begun, I want to express my frustration with the apathy of our local membership. I have been an active member of the local since 1996, not always as an officer or steward but regular in my attendance at the union meetings. In that time the faces who are involved by attending meetings or volunteering their time to the union has changed very little. The people who complain about what is happening on the workroom floor, on the other hand, rotate pretty routinely. As I listen to co-workers I catch myself thinking, we talked about this at the meeting in (fill in the month). Many times I hear people complain about actions that were taken at the meeting, but those same people will not attend the next meeting to voice their concerns.

At the last meeting, the one where nominations began for local elections I warned those present that the local is in need of soliciting new people to become active in leadership roles. That is not because I am unhappy with the current leadership, but I believe that an organization needs to maximize its resources by tapping into the talents of all of members. I think that each member should contribute to the function of the organization for benefit of the entire group. Each of us has special talents, and differing points of view that I believe maintain the vitality of the organization. For several years this group has depended on the efforts of only a handful of people,

limiting the possibilities brought by new ways of thinking and solving problems.

I for one am getting burnt out! It is time for someone else to step up and take responsibility for a while. It isn't tough, and we spend a lot of time educating anyone who is interested in learning. You don't have to be a rocket scientist; you just have to have the desire to help yourself and your coworkers.

Think about attending the Fall Seminar or any educational seminar that is scheduled so that you can make an educated choice on the best way you can serve the union. But make the choice to become involved.

Treasurer's Report

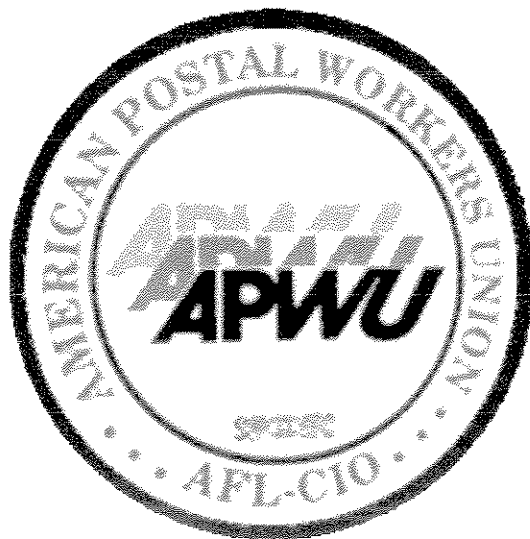
By: Meri Kay Chase 

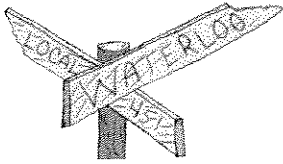
TREASURER'S REPORT - July, Aug, Sept 2004

Your Treasurer has been biker busy all summer, so here is your "catch up" report. Rest assured that regular business has been conducted in a professional manner. There are substantial taxes to be paid in October, as well as per capita expenses for the summer.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$8,348.23
Remainder of Nat'l Convention	\$6,373.96
LWOP/exp. IFL Convention	\$518.19
Payroll Taxes	\$439.70
Meeting Expenses	\$98.76
Printing Cornerstone	\$248.48
Phone	\$70.00
Picnic	\$349.14
Cindy Miller	\$250.00

See you at the meeting, (Yes, I'll be there!) Oct.16, 11 a.m. at The Other Place in Evansdale.





The Corner Stone

AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION
WATERLOO LOCAL #451
P.O. BOX 387
WATERLOO, IA 50704

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Union Meeting

Oct. 16th @ 11am
THE OTHER PLACE
3904 Lafayette Rd
Evansdale, IA

Waterloo Local #451 Officers

President - Dwight Slaikeu	Trustees - Eddy Berry
Vice-President - Kim Karol	Stan Drewelow
Steward Director - Cindy Miller	Jeneffe Brucher
Secretary - Mike Burke	Editor - Chris Salinas
Treasurer - Meri Kay Chase	

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LOCAL #451

